



iDiv

German Centre for Integrative
Biodiversity Research (iDiv)
Halle-Jena-Leipzig

Bachelor thesis

Soil biodiversity change: extent, consequences, and sustainability

Background

Within the framework of the BMBF-funded project 'Forschungsinitiative zum Erhalt der Artenvielfalt (FEaA)' a group of 120 authors works towards an assessment on the state of biodiversity in Germany. Based on peer-reviewed and gray literature, this project aims to describe and identify the trends and drivers of biodiversity change, their consequences for ecosystem functioning and ecosystem services as well as strategies to safeguard or improve biodiversity.

Project

The thesis comprises of a systematic literature review of scientific peer-reviewed and gray literature. You will independently screen German and English literature on soil biodiversity. **Depending on your interest, the thesis may focus on a specific group of organisms, e.g., earthworms, a specific region, e.g., Germany or Europe, or a specific topic, e.g., biodiversity change or consequences for ecosystem functioning or sustainability.** In addition, you will learn how to extract relevant information and data on the status and trends, drivers, ecosystem functions, ecosystem services, and interventions related to soil biodiversity in Germany. This project will offer in-depth knowledge of soil organisms, their ecology, importance, and risk status. You will learn how to perform a systematic literature synthesis and you will be part of a science-policy project.

Profile

You are interested in soil biodiversity change and research synthesis, would like to learn more about the Science-Policy interface, and would like to gain an understanding of processes such as IPBES (Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services). Prior knowledge about literature synthesis are not required but can be advantages. You will need to speak, read, and write in German and English.

Supervision

The master thesis will be supervised by Dr. Christian Ristok (iDiv / UL) and Prof. Dr. Nico Eisenhauer (iDiv / UL).

If the project has piqued your interest and/or you have further questions about the project, please contact me at any time via mail (christian.ristok@idiv.de).

Contact

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